

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

~~SECRET~~

November 2, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

The President called me this evening to ask if I had talked to Ambassador Alphand about the Khrushchev letter of October 26. I said I had but Alphand had been perfectly pleasant about it and had returned the copy to me which I had sent him. I also told the President that Alphand asked whether my request implied that we were suggesting that the leak had come from his Embassy. I told the President that I had said to Alphand that this was not the case. The President then told me that as a matter of fact we were imputing this to someone connected with the French Embassy.

He said that there had been a dinner at Stew Alsop's house at which Rowland Evans and another newspaper man had been present together with a member of the staff of the French Embassy, and that Evans had written his story on the basis of the account the Frenchman had given of the Khrushchev letter. The President asked me if I knew "Sigi" (A. de Segonzac). I said I knew him well. The President then asked me to call de Segonzac and ask him whether he could tell me the name of the Frenchman involved. He added that if de Segonzac was unwilling to do so, I should go and see Alphand confidentially and tell him what I knew. The President repeated that we were letting it be known responsibility for the leak rests with a member of the French Embassy staff.

WRT
William R. Tyler

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